

Amendments to the Specification

Paragraph [0008]

Deciding which of the buffered wires in an ASIC to replace with transmission lines is a time consuming process. Care must be taken to ensure that the use of a transmission line in place of a buffered wire does not have a net negative impact on the ASIC. Process specific parameters and factors such as route length, delay, routability, resistance, capacitance, cross-talk, congestion, power consumption, etc., must be taken into account before deciding which type of connection technique (i.e., buffered wire verses transmission line) should be used. The process specific parameters and factors may also be used to determine which type of transmission line should be used.

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0018]:

[0018.1] FIG. 4 illustrates an ASIC design tool in accordance with the present invention.